

47 Missouri Counties Most Impacted by New Madrid Seismic Event

These are the 47 counties affected in a New Madrid Earthquake by Mercalli number and in alphabetical order. Modified Mercalli Earthquake Intensities for a 7.6 Richter Magnitude Earthquake. Mercalli X would have the greatest amount of damage.

Mercalli X: Mississippi, New Madrid and Pemiscot Counties might experience the following damages: well built wooden structures are severely damaged and some are destroyed. Most masonry and frame structures are destroyed including the foundations. Some bridges are destroyed. Dams are seriously damaged. Large landslides occur. Water is thrown on the banks of canals, rivers and lakes. Railroad tracks are bent slightly. Cracks are opened in cement pavements.

Mercalli IX: Dunklin, Scott and Stoddard Counties might experience the following damages: most buildings will suffer damage. Houses that are not bolted down may move off their foundation. Some underground pipes are broken. The ground cracks conspicuously. Reservoirs suffer severe damages.

Mercalli VIII: Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, Perry, Pike, Ralls, St. Louis Counties and the City of St. Louis might experience the following: drivers will have trouble steering. Poorly built structures will suffer severe damages. Ordinary substantial buildings may partially collapse. Damage slight in structures built to withstand earthquakes. Tree branches break. Houses not bolted down might shift on their foundations. Tall structures such as towers and chimneys might twist and fall. Temporary or permanent changes to springs and wells. Sand and mud is ejected in small amounts.

Mercalli VII: Adair, Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Carter, Chariton, Clark, Cole, Howard, Iron, Jefferson, Knox, Macon, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Oregon, Osage, Putnam, Randolph, Reynolds, Ripley, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, St. Charles, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Washington, Wayne and Warren Counties. People will have difficulty standing. There will be considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed buildings, adobe houses, old walls, spires and others. Damage is slight to moderate in well-built buildings. Numerous windows are broken. Weak chimneys break at roof lines. Cornices from towers and tall buildings fall. Loose bricks fall from buildings. Heavy furniture is overturned and damaged. Some sand and gravel streams cave in.